

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00528 121151Z

62

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

BIB-01 ACDA-05 SAI-01 /068 W
----- 107582

R 120948Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 933

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 0528

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, XH, BU

SUBJECT: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION

REF: A) STATE 056126; B) 75 SOFIA 2441; C) 75 STATE 268205

1. THERE HAVE BEEN NO DEVELOPMENTS IN BULGARIA COMPARABLE TO THOSE ENUMERATED IN PARA 1 REF A. HOWEVER, AS REPORTED REF B, THERE HAVE BEEN STATEMENTS BY FOREIGN MINISTER WHICH MIGHT INDICATE THAT BULGARIA IS PLANNING TO BRING IN A LIMITED NUMBER OF FOREIGN NON-COMMUNIST NEWSPAPERS AND TO LIBERALIZE EXIT FOR MEMBERS OF DIVIDED FAMILIES. ON THE FIRST THERE HAS BEEN NO ACTION AT ALL SO FAR; AND ON THE SECOND ONLY MINIMAL ACTION WHICH IS QUITE UNSATISFACTORY. AS DEPARTMENT HAS AUTHORIZED, I EXPECT TO RAISE THIS AS WELL AS OTHER MATTERS WHICH HAVE CSCE IMPLICATIONS DIRECTLY WITH ZHIVKOV IF I CAN SEE HIM PRIOR TO THE PARTY CONGRESS.

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PAGE 02 SOFIA 00528 121151Z

OTHERWISE, I WOULD HOPE TO SEE PM TODOROV OR FONMIN

MLADENOV PRIOR TO MY DEPARTURE ON HOME LEAVE.

2. IN ADDITION, WE HAVE IN PLAY A PROPOSAL TO DO AWAY WITH CLOSED AREAS FOR DIPLOMATS. BUT THIS IS A US INITIATIVE, TAKEN AFTER THE BULGARIANS SHOWED RECEPTIVITY.

3. WE SEE NO BENEFIT IN MAKING ANOTHER SPECIAL APPROACH ON CSCE MATTERS. IN FACT, AS WE POINTED OUT IN REF B AND DEPARTMENT AGREED (REF C), WE THINK IT BETTER NOT TO HAMMER THE DIVIDED FAMILIES THEME AS A MATTER INVOLVING CSCE; IT IS MORE PROFITABLE TO US TO TREAT THIS AS A QUESTION OF BULGARIAN GOOD FAITH AFTER THE FORTHCOMING REMARKS MADE BY ZHIVKOV TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY. IN GENERAL AS EXPLAINED REF B WE THINK IT LESS PROFITABLE TO TRY TO PUSH ALL ALONG THE LINE ON BASKET III ISSUES THAN TO SINGLE ONE OUT FOR SPECIAL EMPHASIS AND KEEP AFTER IT; BUT THIS CAN BE EFFECTIVE ONLY IF OUR ALLIES WILL DO THE SAME. AS DEPT RECALLS, WE HAD HOPED THAT BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE AT FCO HATTERSLEE WOULD COME IN STRONGLY ON CSCE LAST DECEMBER; BUT HIS VISIT WAS POSTPONED.

4. AS IT HAPPENS, HATTERSLEE WILL BE HERE NEXT WEEK, AND HIS SCENARIO IS STILL THE SAME. WE WILL REPORT IF HIS TALKS DISCLOSE ANY OPENINGS ON THE BULGARIAN FRONT INTO WHICH OTHERS INCLUDING OURSELVES COULD MOVE; BUT IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WOULD THINK THAT ANOTHER ACROSS-THE-BOARD APPROACH ON CSCE WOULD BE PREMATURE IN SOFIA. WE WILL HAVE ENOUGH TO DO IN TRYING TO HOLD THEM TO THE PROMISES THAT WERE MADE TO US ON SEPTEMBER 10 AND DECEMBER 29, SIMPLY AS A MATTER OF THE GOOD FAITH AND CREDIT THAT EACH SIDE SHOULD BE ABLE TO ATTACH TO DECLARATIONS OF INTENTION OF THE OTHER IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TREATY COMPLIANCE, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ullricre
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SOFIA00528
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760094-1016
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760366/aaaacfzl.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 56126, 76 SOFIA 2441, 76 STATE 268205
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION
TAGS: PFOR, XH, BU, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006